

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

16 May 2019

Mr. Eric Anderson  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 54195  
411A Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02144-2416

Reference: F-2018-01761

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This is a final response to your 23 May 2018 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request for records pertaining to **Carlos Hank Gonzalez**. We processed your request in accordance with the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended, and the CIA Information Act, 50 U.S.C. § 3141, as amended.

We completed a thorough search for records responsive to your request and located two documents, consisting of two pages, which we determined can be released in their entirety.

We also determined that three documents, consisting of five pages, can be released in segregable form with deletions made on the basis of FOIA exemptions (b)(1), (b)(3). Copies of the documents and an explanation of exemptions are enclosed. Exemption (b)(3) pertains to information exempt from disclosure by statute. The relevant statutes are Section 6 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, as amended, and Section 102A(i)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended.

As the CIA Information and Privacy Coordinator, I am the CIA official responsible for this determination. You have the right to appeal this response to the Agency Release Panel, in my care, within 90 days from the date of this letter. Please include the basis of your appeal.

If you have any questions regarding our response, you may contact us at:

Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505  
Information and Privacy Coordinator  
703-613-3007 (Fax)

Please be advised that you may seek dispute resolution services from the CIA's FOIA Public Liaison or from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) of the

National Archives and Records Administration. OGIS offers mediation services to help resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies. You may reach CIA's FOIA Public Liaison at:

703-613-1287 (FOIA Hotline)

The contact information for OGIS is:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
202-741-5770  
877-864-6448  
202-741-5769 (fax)  
ogis@nara.gov

Contacting the CIA's FOIA Public Liaison or OGIS does not affect your right to pursue an administrative appeal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Lilly' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark Lilly  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures

UNCLASSIFIED

MEXICO

**Carlos HANK Gonzalez**  
**HANK**

*Secretary of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources (since 1990)*

Businessman and political leader Carlos Hank holds primary responsibility for carrying out President Carlos Salinas's directives for modernizing the agricultural sector, including reform of the land tenure system. He also has been active in water-rights issues, particularly in the arid northwestern states.

Hank was born on 28 August 1927. After graduating from the Normal School of Toluca in Mexico State, he taught primary and secondary education for several years. He later went into business and acquired several enterprises, including trucking and heavy equipment manufacturing plants and real estate. He served as mayor of Toluca (1955-57) and as federal deputy from Mexico State (1958-61), as well as assistant manager of sales (1961-64) of CONASUPO, the government agency that controls the price and distribution of basic commodities. He was Governor of Mexico State (1969-75) before being named mayor of Mexico City in 1976. He returned to the private sector in 1982, where he worked until his appointment as Secretary of Tourism in December 1988. He held that post until assuming his current duties.

LDA M 93-12540

05/26/1993

**UNCLASSIFIED****MEXICO**

**Carlos HANK Gonzalez**  
**HANK**

*Secretary of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources (since 1990)*

Businessman and political leader Carlos Hank holds primary responsibility for carrying out President Carlos Salinas's directives for modernizing the agricultural sector, including the recently passed reform of the land tenure system. He also has been active in water-rights issues, particularly in the arid northwestern states.

Hank was born on 28 August 1927. After graduating from the Normal School of Toluca in Mexico State, he taught primary and secondary education for several years. He later went into business and acquired several enterprises, including trucking and heavy equipment manufacturing plants and real estate. He served as mayor of Toluca (1955-57) and as federal deputy from Mexico State (1958-61), as well as assistant manager of sales (1961-64) of CONASUPO, the government agency that controls the price and distribution of basic commodities. He was Governor of Mexico State (1969-75) before being named mayor of Mexico City in 1976. He returned to the private sector in 1982, where he worked until his appointment as Secretary of Tourism in December 1988. He held that post until assuming his current duties.

LDA M 92-13760  
07/30/1992

**Carlos HANK Gonzalez**

**MEXICO**

*Secretary of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources (since January 1990)*

*Addressed as: Mr. Secretary*



Wealthy businessman and political power broker Carlos Hank has a reputation as a strong, aggressive leader. President Carlos Salinas has tasked him with modernizing and restructuring Mexico's depressed agricultural sector as the country heads toward a free trade agreement with the United States and Canada. Salinas probably believes that Hank's considerable influence in the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) and his wide-ranging business connections will provide the leverage needed for him to implement agricultural reforms. Hank is not a Salinas insider, however, and is closely associated with the PRI's old guard.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Hank faces an uphill battle in reforming the agricultural sector, which is so inefficient that Mexico has become an importer of basic foodstuffs. Hank's most pressing problem is revamping Mexico's land tenure system, which includes privately owned property and commune-style farms known as *ejidos*. Because of the *ejidos*' inefficiency, Salinas probably favors their privatization, but they have a historical and cultural significance that would make that course of action politically risky. As a compromise, Hank is promoting reforms that are designed to encourage entrepreneurship and greater private-sector participation in *ejido* production and management.

(b)(3)

Hank was born on 28 August 1927. After graduating from the Normal School of Toluca in Mexico State, he taught primary and secondary education for several years. He later went into business and acquired several enterprises, including trucking and heavy equipment manufacturing plants and real estate. He served as mayor of Toluca (1955-57) and as federal deputy from Mexico State (1958-61), as well as assistant manager of sales (1961-64) and director (1964-65) of CONASUPO, the government agency that controls the price and distribution of basic commodities. He was Governor of Mexico State (1969-75) before being named mayor of Mexico City in 1976. He returned to the private sector in 1982, where he worked until his appointment as Secretary of Tourism in December 1988. He held that post until assuming his current duties.

(b)(3)

Hank speaks some English.

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Married to the former Maria Guadeloupe Rohn, he has six children.

(b)(3)

LDA M 91-13770  
13 August 1991

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

**MEXICO****Carlos HANK Gonzalez  
HANK***Secretary of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources (since 1990)*

Wealthy businessman and political power broker Carlos Hank is one of a handful of members of President Carlos Salinas's generally young, technocratic Cabinet who belong to the traditionalist, old-guard wing of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI). Although Hank is not a Salinas insider, [redacted] he was selected for his post because his considerable influence in the PRI and his wide-ranging business contacts provide the leverage needed for him to implement agricultural reforms. These reforms are a critical part of Salinas's economic modernization program. Salinas also hopes Hank can improve the climate for the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with the United States and Canada. The ambitious, aggressive Hank has long aspired to high political office, but he is constitutionally prohibited from running for the presidency because his father was German born. [redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

On NAFTA-related agricultural issues, Salinas is almost always the key decisionmaker. [redacted] Hank has largely been left to ensure that key PRI and government leaders support the administration's agricultural line. On the policy front, Hank has been most active on irrigation and water-rights issues, particularly in the arid northwestern states, and has met with key officials in US border states to discuss these questions. He has also actively promoted greater private-sector participation in agriculture. [redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

(b)(3)

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

**Career and Personal Data**

Hank was born on 28 August 1927. After graduating from the Normal School of Toluca in Mexico State, he taught primary and secondary education for several years. He

later went into business and acquired several enterprises, including trucking and heavy equipment manufacturing plants and real estate. He has served as mayor of Toluca (1955-57), federal deputy from Mexico State (1958-61), and assistant manager of sales (1961-64) and director (1964-65) of CONASUPO, the government agency that controls the price and distribution of basic commodities. He was Governor of Mexico State (1969-75) before being named mayor of Mexico City in 1976. He returned to the private sector in 1982, where he worked until his appointment as Secretary of Tourism in December 1988. He held that post until assuming his current duties [redacted]

(b)(3)

Hank does not speak English. [redacted]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

[redacted] Married to the  
former Maria Guadeloupe Rohn, he has six children. [redacted]

(b)(3)

LDA M 93-12539  
05/26/1993

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

**MEXICO**

**Carlos HANK Gonzalez**  
**HANK**

*Secretary of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources (since 1990)*

Wealthy businessman and political power broker Carlos Hank is one of a few from the traditionalist, old-guard wing of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) in President Carlos Salinas's generally young, technocratic Cabinet. [REDACTED]

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

[REDACTED] he was selected for his post because his considerable influence within the PRI and his wide-ranging business contacts provided leverage to implement controversial agricultural reforms, which have been a critical part of Salinas's economic modernization program. PRI officials continue to look to Hank as someone who can deliver support from PRI traditionalists: he is among those who have recently been courted by PRI presidential candidate Ernesto Zedillo [REDACTED] Included in recent party appointments by Zedillo are two officials who have strong ties to Hank, [REDACTED]

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

[REDACTED] and are his proteges: PRI secretary general and Zedillo campaign coordinator Ignacio Pichardo and PRI secretary of electoral action Humberto Lira. The ambitious, aggressive Hank has himself long aspired to high political office, according to press reports, but he is constitutionally prohibited from running for the presidency until the year 2000 because his father was German born. [REDACTED]

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

(b)(3)

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

[REDACTED] leaving Hank to ensure that key PRI and government leaders support the administration's agricultural line. Hank has been most active on irrigation and water-rights issues, particularly in the arid northwestern states, and has met with key officials in US border states to discuss these questions. He has also actively promoted greater private-sector participation in agriculture. [REDACTED]

(b)(3)

(b)(1)  
(b)(3)

Career and Personal Data



Hank was born on 28 August 1927. After graduating from the Normal School of Toluca in Mexico State, he taught primary and secondary education for several years. He later went into business and acquired several enterprises, including trucking and heavy equipment manufacturing plants and real estate. He has served as mayor of Toluca (1955-57), federal deputy from Mexico State (1958-61), and assistant manager of sales (1961-64) and director (1964-65) of CONASUPO, a government agency controlling the price and distribution of basic commodities. He was Governor of Mexico State (1969-75), his political power base, before being named mayor of Mexico City in 1976. He returned to the private sector in 1982, where he worked until his appointment as Secretary of Tourism in December 1988. He held that post until assuming his current duties.

[REDACTED]

(b)(3)

Hank does not speak English.

[REDACTED]

(b)(1)

(b)(3)

[REDACTED]

Married to the former

Maria Guadeloupe Hohn, he has six children.

[REDACTED]

(b)(3)

LDA M 94-12442  
04/29/1994

## **Explanation of Exemptions**

### **Freedom of Information Act:**

- (b)(1) exempts from disclosure information currently and properly classified, pursuant to an Executive Order;
- (b)(2) exempts from disclosure information which pertains solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Agency;
- (b)(3) exempts from disclosure information that another federal statute protects, provided that the other federal statute either requires that the matters be withheld, or establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld. The (b)(3) statutes upon which the CIA relies include, but are not limited to, the CIA Act of 1949;
- (b)(4) exempts from disclosure trade secrets and commercial or financial information that is obtained from a person and that is privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) exempts from disclosure inter-and intra-agency memoranda or letters that would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) exempts from disclosure information from personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy;
- (b)(7) exempts from disclosure information compiled for law enforcement purposes to the extent that the production of the information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings; (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication; (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source or, in the case of information compiled by a criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source; (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law; or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger any individual's life or physical safety;
- (b)(8) exempts from disclosure information contained in reports or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, or on behalf of, or for use of an agency responsible for regulating or supervising financial institutions; and
- (b)(9) exempts from disclosure geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

**April 2012**